

Full Itinerary

EXPERIENCE DEVON & LONDON: MEMBER EVENT IN SOUTHERN ENGLAND



TALK TO OUR WELL
TRAVELLED TEAM OF
EXPERTS

+44(0) 844 3350
197

Monday - Thursday 9:00am -
8:00pm, Friday 9:00am - 5:30pm
(London time)



JOURNEY SNAPSHOT

ACTIVITY LEVEL:

Level 2

DESTINATION:

Experience

Devon & London

Member Event

DURATION:

8 days / 7 nights

FLIGHT INFORMATION:

Please arrange your flights to arrive into London Heathrow Airport [LHR] on Day 1 depart from Heathrow on Day 8

PICKUP LOCATION:

Leonardo Heathrow Hotel, London

OVERVIEW

Sep 21 - 28, 2024

Explore the stunning scenery of some of England's most stunning coastal counties - Devon and Cornwall. What's more, finish your week in England with a stay in London, discovering the capital's highlights.

Join us on this Member Event to discover some of best sights of southern England. Starting with one night in London, we make our way south to Woodford Bridge Country Club, located in the beautiful coastal county of Devon, our base for 4 nights. During our time in this picturesque region, we will visit iconic castles and secret gardens, as well as see stunning coastlines and British seaside resorts. We will ride a historic steam train, learn about Agatha Christie, one of Britain's most famous authors and visit filming locations from the famous TV costume drama series, Poldark.

What's more, no visit to the counties of Devon and nearby Cornwall would be complete without sampling a traditional Cornish Cream Tea! We will cross one of the largest National Parks in England - Exmoor, and go back in history with a visit to the ancient Roman City of Bath. The tour finishes back in London. With 2 days to explore Britain's iconic capital, one of the world's most visited cities, you have the opportunity to see and visit many of the famous attractions, museums and sights.

ITINERARY SUMMARY

DAY 1 - Welcome to England

DAY 2 - Windsor Castle and to Woodford Bridge

DAY 3 - Devon's Coastal Villages, a Historic House and Carriage Museum

DAY 4 - Discovering Cornwall - The Lost Gardens of Heligan

DAY 5 - Steam Trains, Agatha Christie & the English Riviera

DAY 6 - To Bath and London - Footprints of the Romans and Farewell Dinner

DAY 7 - London Sightseeing and Tower of London

DAY 8 - Farewell to London

FULL ITINERARY

DAY 1 - WELCOME TO ENGLAND

On arrival at London Heathrow Airport, your overnight airport hotel is only 5 minutes drive away from the terminals. You may wish to make private transfer arrangements, but taxis are readily available and pretty inexpensive, or you can use the airport's hotel shuttle bus. The 'Hoppla Service' operates from all terminals and you buy the ticket from the driver - please ensure you have some UK Sterling handy, small notes are preferable. The most up to date time tables can be found [HERE](#)

The rest of the day and evening is at leisure to relax at the hotel, perhaps grab a drink or a bite to eat in the hotel's restaurant and bar.

Please note - the first night of the tour is at a hotel at Heathrow, not the Woodford Bridge Club

Accommodation: Hilton, London Heathrow Airport, Terminal 4, Hounslow TW6 3AF

DAY 2 - WINDSOR CASTLE AND TO WOODFORD BRIDGE

This morning, enjoy breakfast in the hotel before checking out and we depart for Devon and the Diamond resort.

On the way, we will stop for a visit and guided tour of one of the most renowned Royal castles in the United Kingdom - Windsor Castle. Windsor is the oldest and largest occupied castle in the world! On arrival, we will be met by a local guide and shown around the Castle, State Apartments and St. George's Chapel, where many recent royal events have taken place including the recent wedding of Prince Harry amongst others and is now the resting place of Queen Elizabeth II. Founded by William the Conqueror in the 11th century, the Castle has been the home of 39 British monarchs.

We will have a light lunch together en-route south to the Woodford Bridge Country Club resort in Devon, our base for the next 4 nights.

Included meals: Breakfast and Light Lunch

Accommodation: Woodford Bridge Country Club, Milton Damerel, Devon

DAY 3 - DEVON'S COASTAL VILLAGES, A HISTORIC HOUSE AND CARRIAGE MUSEUM

On our excursion today, accompanied by an expert guide, we take a leisurely drive through the scenic Exmoor National Park before arriving at the twin coastal towns of Lynton and Lynmouth. Made popular by Victorian holidaymakers, they were often referred to as 'Little Switzerland'. The two small towns are connected by a cliff funicular railway* - built in 1890, it is still in operation today. Tickets are included to ride the railway and there will be plenty of free time to explore, shop and get some lunch.

In the afternoon, we will continue onwards to Arlington Court for a visit and tour. Arlington Court is an unexpected jewel on the edge of Exmoor National Park and has been the family home to the Chichester family for more than 500 years! The Carriage Museum in the house's stables has more than 40 vehicles ranging from elegant coaches used for state occasions to humble carts used to carry servants. Also today, we enjoy the most traditional Devon cream tea- save some room for lashings of jam and cream!

We will return to the resort late afternoon and the rest of the day at leisure.

*Please note, there are a number of steps to negotiate on/off the funicular railway.

Included meals: Cream Tea

Accommodation: Woodford Bridge Country Club, Milton Damerel, Devon

DAY 4 - DISCOVERING CORNWALL - THE LOST GARDENS OF HELIGAN

This morning, we discover the best of the nearby county of Cornwall. We start with a visit to the Lost Gardens of Heligan. The seat of the Tremayne family for more than 400 years, Heligan is one of the most mysterious estates in England. Until twenty-five years ago, Heligan's historic gardens were unknown and unseen, lost under a tangle of weeds. It was only the chance discovery of a door in the ruins that led to the restoration of this once great estate. Our local guide will help uncover the history of this truly 'secret garden'. After the tour we will have a light lunch in the garden's café.

This afternoon we take a short drive to the picturesque harbour town of Mevagissey, to enjoy a little time exploring this traditional fishing port. There has been a community here since at least the 6th century, and the long history of the town is reflected in its narrow streets and architecture.

Included meals: Light Lunch

Accommodation: Woodford Bridge Country Club, Milton Damerel, Devon

DAY 5 - STEAM TRAINS, AGATHA CHRISTIE & THE ENGLISH RIVIERA

We depart this morning and drive to the seaside resort of Paignton. Here we will board the historic Dartmouth Steam Railway for a trip to Kinswear, where we then take the river ferry across to the traditional seaside resort of Dartmouth. From Dartmouth, we board the river cruise to arrive in style at Greenway House, the summer home of the renowned crime writer, Agatha Christie.

In the courtyard, we will be given a brief overview introduction to the house and family, before heading off on a self-guided house tour in small groups. Each room has its own guide who are happy to answer any questions as we go along. Many of Agatha Christie's famous stories were written at Greenway House, including Five Little Pigs, Dead Man's Folly and Ordeal by Innocence. The house is now owned by the National Trust, which maintains houses and heritage sites across the UK. There is a shop and cafe on-site if you wish to find lunch here.

Afterwards, we reboard the river ferry and travel back to Dartmouth where we will rejoin our coach and return to Woodford Bridge.

The evening is at leisure.

Accommodation: Woodford Bridge Country Club, Milton Damerel, Devon

DAY 6 - TO BATH AND LONDON - FOOTPRINTS OF THE ROMANS AND FAREWELL DINNER

Sadly, we must leave Devon this morning and make our way back towards London. En-route we will stop at the historic city of Bath. After a guided panoramic tour of the city, we will visit of the famous Roman Baths, from which the city gained its name. Roman ruins on the site date back to 60BC and the baths were in use until the 5th Century. There will be some time to explore the city further, grab some lunch or to do some shopping.

In the afternoon, will continue our journey to London and our hotel. Centrally located, it is close to shops, bars and restaurants and within easy reach of many attractions.

Tonight, we will join together for our Farewell Dinner on board a River Thames cruise ship. We will be able so see many London landmarks from a different view, illuminated as we sail past.

Included meals: Farewell Dinner

Accommodation: Melia White House Hotel, London

DAY 7 - LONDON SIGHTSEEING AND TOWER OF LONDON

A guided panoramic coach tour of London will show us all the city's most famous sights. Marvel at the grand architecture and historically important buildings as we pass the Houses of Parliament, Big Ben, the London Eye, Downing Street, Buckingham Palace, Piccadilly, Trafalgar Square, Tower Bridge and many others. The tour will end at the Tower of London. Located beside the Thames and Tower Bridge, the Tower of London has been a castle, prison, armoury and records office amongst many other roles. Here we will see the Crown Jewels, the White Tower, the Bloody Tower, Battlements and the iconic Yeoman of the Guard.

The rest of the day and evening is at leisure to get some lunch and dinner, do some further sightseeing or last minute souvenir shopping.

Included meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Melia White House Hotel, London

DAY 8 - FAREWELL TO LONDON

Sadly, it's the end of our UK adventure. There will be three scheduled departures from the hotel to London Heathrow Airport.

Included meals: Breakfast

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WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 3 nights London hotel accommodation on bed and breakfast basis as detailed in the itinerary (nights 1, 6 & 7)
- 4 nights self-catering resort accommodation as detailed in the itinerary (nights 2-5)
- Transportation to and from all the events and activities as detailed in the itinerary
- All activities, visits, guides and excursions as detailed in the itinerary
- Meals as detailed in the itinerary
- Scheduled airport shuttle from the hotel to London Heathrow Airport [LHR] on Day 8 - departing our hotel at 6am, 8am and 12noon
(Your places on the shuttle must be pre-booked.)
- Services of Big Journey Company Tour Director

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- International return flights into London Heathrow Airport [LHR]
- Transfer from London Heathrow Airport [LHR] to hotel on Day 1. The hotel is a short drive from the airport's terminals. Taxis are readily available and there is an airport hotel shuttle service available at small cost, payable direct locally
- Hotel accommodation is based on twin/double share room occupancy for both 1 and 2-bed units at the resort. Supplements apply for single hotel room occupancy
- Any COVID tests or related entry & exit requirements
- Airport transfers outside the tour dates
- Visas, travel or medical insurance
- Any personal items and anything not mentioned under included in price above
- Any food and beverage not detailed in the itinerary
- Entrance fees to non-stipulated attractions
- Any optional activities offered
- Gratuities

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **N.B.** - The event is not based for the whole duration at the Woodford Bridge Country Club. Night 1 is at a hotel at Heathrow Airport and the last 2 nights of this Member Event we will be staying in a hotel in central London. Days 2 - 5 are spent at Woodford Bridge Country Club.
- Hotel accommodation is based on twin/double share room occupancy for both 1 and 2-bed units at the resort. Supplements apply for single hotel room occupancy.
- Hilton Grand Vacations Member Events Terms Apply
- Please let The Big Journey Company know prior to travelling if you have any medical needs or take any medication that we need to be made aware of to ensure that you have a safe and pleasant tour.
- Check in is after 3:00pm and check out is before 10:00am unless otherwise specified in the itinerary.
- It is your responsibility to ensure the correct travel insurance is in place to protect you against the need to cancel your holiday.

BOOK YOUR JOURNEY

Choose from the list of dates below

Call to Book

+44(0) 844 3350 197

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